

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-22 (Canceled).

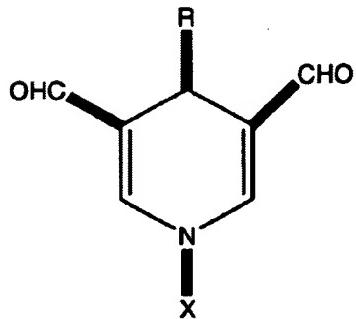
Claim 23 (Currently amended): A method of detecting the presence of alcohol liver disease

comprising:

collecting a biological sample; and

assaying for the presence of a hybrid malondialdehyde-acetaldehyde (MAA) protein adduct, said

adduct having the following formula:



wherein X is a peptide or protein containing an active lysine residue; and R is selected from the group consisting of a lower C₁ to C₆ alkyl group, benzyl and hydrogen.

Claim 24 (Canceled).

Claim 25 (Currently amended): The method of claim 23 wherein said method of detection is by fluorescence detection at 397 nm.

Claim 26 (Previously presented): The method of claim 23 wherein said detection is by an immunoassay comprising an antibody which recognizes a MAA epitope, said antibody being a monoclonal or polyclonal antibody.